

Staff Picks: Podcasts

Check out the list of podcast episodes related to Iowa's people and places recommended by staff from the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs.



"Punk Rock, Home Birth, and Indian Corn: Shelley Buffalo"

Mid-Americana: Stories from a Changing Midwest

Shelley Buffalo is a visual artist and Food Sovereignty Coordinator for the Meskwaki Settlement near Tama, Iowa. The podcast focuses on Buffalo's experience of racism in rural Iowa, how her birth experience in a hospital compared with her second birth experience at home and why her work with food sovereignty may mean more to future generations than to her own.

[Listen Here](#)



"People Would Call Me Iowa: Adam Hammes"

Mid-Americana: Stories from a Changing Midwest

Adam Hammes grew up in rural Richland, Iowa. He spent much of his 20s traveling the world leading environmental education trips. After this series of adventures, he moved back to Iowa to establish Urban Ambassadors, a Des Moines non-profit that supports community sustainability projects and connections.

[Listen Here](#)



"Safe Passage"

Memory Palace

This podcast episode focuses on President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's perilous journey across the Atlantic on the USS Iowa on his way to Tehran to one of the most consequential gatherings of Allied leaders during World War II.

[Listen Here](#)



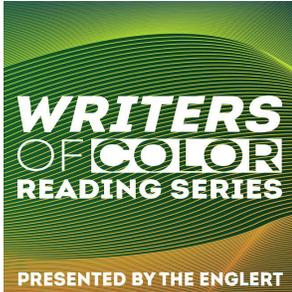
"The Honey War"

Stuff You Missed in History Class

The Honey War is the story of a fierce border dispute between Iowa and Missouri shortly before Iowa officially gained statehood. This podcast tells that surprising and often-overlooked history.

[Listen Here](#)

Staff Picks: Podcasts



Writers of Color Reading Series

The Englert Theatre in Iowa City

The Writers of Color Reading Series at The Englert Theatre in Iowa City is being adapted to a new weekly podcast format featuring one writer of color per episode. The writer will share a reading of their work and an interview about their personal history and creative process. Questions for asynchronous personal reflection will be included with each episode and listeners will be invited to submit written or audio responses to those questions.

The Writers of Color Reading Series was launched to create a dedicated space for local Black, Indigenous and other writers of color who were undergraduates, MFAs or long-term Iowa City residents. The reading series was launched by T. Geronimo Johnson and Andre Perry, who both attended the University of Iowa's MFA writing programs as emerging Black authors in the early 2000s. Years later they reunited when Johnson returned as a visiting professor at the Iowa Writers' Workshop; Perry had stayed in Iowa and served as the Executive Director of The Englert Theatre. Perry continues to oversee the series while working with a rotating group of MFA students and other local programmers to curate the readers.

[Podcast Series To Be Released Here](#)